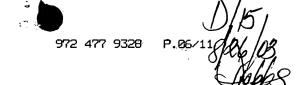
ALCATEL USA, INC.



Serial No.: 09/343,517 Group Axt Unit: 2663 Examiner: Detrick Ferris

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Burnett, et al.

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Derrick Ferris

Title:

Method and Apparatus for Managing Remote IP Network Elements Through SONET Network Elements

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent Office to 703-872-9314, Attention Examiner Derrick Ferris, on August 20, 2003 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d).

Dear Commissioner:

A Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith in response to the Advisory Action mailed July 9, 2003. Prior to continued examination of this application, please consider the following amendment and comments.